

West Virginia Writers' Project

West Virginia Writers' Project

*Pocahontas 10*

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject County Government

Date 10/18/41

Research Worker Samuel G. Smith

Date Research Taken 10/14, 15, 16, 17/41

Typist Samuel G. Smith

Date Typed 10/18/41

Source County Court Order Book  
# 3 & 4 Marlinton. W. Va.

Date Filed \_\_\_\_\_



Soon after the county was formed the court proceeded to organize the county Militia, as a part of the military establishment of the state. The following named persons were named as fit and proper persons to fill the respective offices so the Governor and the ~~XXXX~~ county requested the appointment of the following John Baxter for Colonel Commandant of the County of Pocahontas, Benjamin Tallman for the office of lieutenant Colonel, William Blair for Major, Boone Tallman, William Arbogast, Henry Herold, Isaac ~~XX~~ Moore, and Milburn Hughes Captains. Andrew G Mathews, Robert W Warwick, William Morgan, William Young and James Rhea as Lieutenants. Jacob Slavens, James Wanless Samuel Young and James Callison for ensigns.

Patrick Bruffey was selected as a suitable person for Sheriff he getting his commission from the Governor of Virginia, his deputies were Paul McNeel, James Bruffey and John A Holden were appointed as his deputies, ~~XXXX~~ Bruffey to serve from Dec. 1843 until the first quarterly court in the year of 1845. The levy was layed and it was found that it would take 779.52 to meet the expenses of the county for that year this being collected from 822 people included in this levy was 50.00 to Daniel Friel for repairing the jail making it a fit and safe place to hold prisoners.

One of the duties of the court at this time was to grant or reject a persons permission to put a fence or a gate across a highway and all partica

NICHOLAS COUNTY GOVERNMENT. S.G.S POCAHONTAS CO. page 2-----

concerned had to be consulted. Patrick Bruffey was commissioned Sheriff with James Bruffey and John Holden as his deputies for 1845 and 46. The levy for 1845 was for 678.87 from 857 tithables this levy was layed by Sampson L. Mathews, Hugh McLaughlin, Samuel Hogsett, & Joseph Moore. Thomas Hill was elected by the court as commissioner of revenue for the county, this usually required 75 days each year. James Sharp was chosen Sheriff until 1847 with Adam Nottingham, William Wooddell and John Holden as his deputies. The clerk of the court was designated by the court to settle with all Sheriffs that had finished their term of office. Henry M Moffett is again chosen clerk of the court with John Newton Craig as his deputy. At this time the court fixed the rates of ordinaries with a slight raise over former years. The levy for 1845 was 497.50 from 897 tithables this shows a gain in population and as many of the roads were finished the levy was lower than before, so most of the levy was for the salaries of the county officials, pay bounty on Wolf scalps and bounty on Red Foxes, about this time the county was beginning to prosper and needed roads into other counties so a delegation of men were selected to go to other counties asking their cooperation in making roads that served as communication lines for many years one of these old roads or trails is still very plain and is often referred to by people of this particular section this is the Old Nicholas Trail that is found on and near Blue Knob on Vincy Mountain, this trail or road was a connecting link between Nicholas County

1841 COUNTY GOVERNMENT. S.G.S POCAHONTAS CO. page 3-----

and Pocahontas. About this time the court proceeded to lay the county off in school districts in persuance of an act of the general Assembly passed on the 5th day of March 1846, so the court proceeded as follows the first district commenced at James Townsends at Stony Bottom and a straight line to John Sharps on the head of the south branch of Sittlington Creek. # 2 commencing at the line of the first and extending to William Bradshaws carding machine and up to the ford of Knapps Creek near Huntersville # 3 commencing at the line of the second at Samuel Hogsetts from there to the Cummings place and from there to Jonathan Griffins and to the Nicholas County line # 4 starting at Cummings place down Greenbrier River opposite the head of Beaverlick to James Piles place and to the mouth of Stamping Creek to the Nicholas County line, # 5 commencing at the line of the 4th at the Greenbrier County line and running to John Oldhams and from there to John Beards mill and from there to Samuel Whitings and joining up with the line of the 4th, # 6 starting at the line of the 5th at the Greenbrier County line to the Nicholas County line this covered the remainder of the county, this being completed the next task for the court was to select a commission for the county one man coming from each district and known as the school commission as follows for district #1 Patrick Bruffey, # 2 Preston Moore, #3 Isaac Moore, # 4 John H Ruckman, # 5 Thomas Hill, # 6 Josiah Beard.